



Canine Level II Basic Evaluation

Submitted by Heidi Crabtree, NASAR

The Miami-Dade Fire Rescue Urban Search and Rescue Task Force / Florida Task Force will be the host of a FEMA/OFDA Level II (Basic) Canine Evaluation in Miami, Florida February 3-5, 2000. Sixteen (16) canine teams will be accepted along with five (5) Shadows. Applications will be accepted until January 15, 2000. Applications can be faxed to Captain Pat Selts at 305-273-4123. Transportation will be provided from the Hotel to the USAR Training Facility. Orientation will be Thursday February 3, 2000 at the Miami Dade USAR Training Facility at 7900 SW 107 Ave at 7:00 p.m. All safety equipment will be the responsibility of the canine handler.

The hotel is the Ramada Limited, 7600 North Kendall Drive, Miami, FL. Phone # 305-595-6000. The rooms are listed under Miami-Dade Task Force, block number is P43961. Room rates are \$89.00/night. Reservations should be made by January 26, 2000. Remember this is the tourist season in Miami. Early reservations are good.

This Type II Evaluation will follow the FEMA Task Force Leaders meeting being hosted in Miami.

Web Sites of Interest

SAR Dog Community:
www.rescuenet.org/calendar/

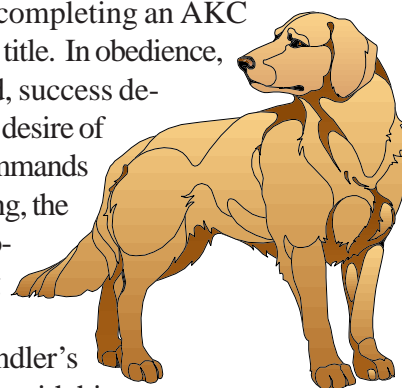
NEW General SAR Community:
www.rescuenet.org/sarcal/

NEW USAR Community:
www.rescuenet.org/usarcal/

Dian and Tommy, TDX Team

Submitted by Elaine Sawtell

Watching an AKC Obedience Trial Champion performance or a dog and handler receive a "V" rating in Schutzhund is always thrilling. Maybe less spectacular but just as thrilling is a team successfully completing an AKC Tracking Dog Excellent title. In obedience, agility and Schutzhund, success depends on the ability and desire of the dog to follow the commands of the handler. In tracking, the handler provides the motivation, but it is the dog who takes the lead. It is a demonstration of a handler's ability to communicate with his dog and, 1 more importantly, understand his dog's communication to him. It is an endeavor that demands mutual trust and respect from both members of the team. Dian Sulek and Tommy earned their TDX in Kansas City recently. Congratulations on your teamwork!



Submission of Items
for the "Canine Bulletin"...

Please mail submissions to:

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Drive and Potential

Submitted by Elaine Sawtell

Schutzhund Obedience, Training in Drive, by Sheila Booth with Gottfried Dildei, is a book written for the specific purpose of pattern training a dog to perform Schutzhund obedience exercises at a highly competitive level. However, it is full of solid training principles and insight into the dog's mind and how best to work as a team with your dog to reach your training goals.

Here is an excerpt from this excellent resource:

Drives

We work with five basic drives. (These definitions are for our purposes in training, not from academic ethology.)

- **Food Drive** is the dog's desire to persist in getting food -- not always related to hunger.
- **Play Drive** is the dog's obsession with objects and his desire to entertain himself actively.
- **Prey Drive** is the dog's intensity in chasing anything moving away - catching, biting and carrying it.
- **Fight Drive** is the dog's desire to initiate and persist in confrontation, both physical and mental.
- **Pack Drive** is the dog's desire to work with the handler and be a member of the team.

Training in **Drive** has two requirements:

The dog must **Have** the drive to do the work.

You must understand **How** to activate the drive.

Every dog possesses certain drives, but each to a different degree. Drive can often be built, but you can rarely instill it where it is not present.

A draft horse cannot be made into a winning race horse, no matter how good the training.

We only have the **Right** to work those dogs who have some natural inclination for the training. We do not have the right to try to train a dog beyond his capabilities.

Recognition Deserved

Submitted by John Huff

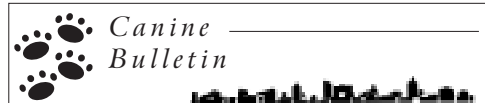
On a daily basis as a Task Force Leader it is easy to get caught up in the daily routine of normal fire department operations. Putting out the administrative fires of my job fills my days and believe it or not there are some days that I don't even think about the Urban Search and Rescue Task Force. I raise this issue in an attempt to recognize the ongoing commitment of the Canine Search Specialist and those Canine Handlers training to become Search Specialist whose everyday life is impacted by their commitment.

On behalf of the Lincoln Fire Department, and the Task Force Program Leadership, I wish to express my sincere appreciation to each and every one of you for your incredible commitment to this program. During this holiday season I hope that you and your families have a wonderful, healthy holiday and I look forward to working with what I believe to be the best cadre of Canine Handlers in the entire Urban Search and Rescue Task Force Program. I salute you and thank you!!

November Canine Bulletin

Submitted by John Huff

If you wondered what happened to the November Edition of the *Canine Bulletin*, we didn't receive any input from Canine Handlers which meant we had no information to share. Please keep in mind that this Bulletin is your tool to share information relevant to the Canine Search Specialist Members of the Task Force. Please help us assure that we don't miss any months in the new millennium.



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